

## Clash mars opening of gov't-MILF talks

By Jeffrey Matans  
PHI/Mindanapo Bureau

**CEBU CITY**—Two days before going to peace talks with the government, the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF) protest at the signing of the ceasefire agreement, claiming that the military's alleged violations of the ceasefire.

PHOTO: JEFFREY MATANS FOR INQUIRER

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## Top students get real gold medals in Diwata

By Anthony S. Alcala  
PHI/Mindanapo Bureau

**CEBU CITY**—The top students in the 10th Diwata National Science and Technology Fair (DNSTF) received real gold medals for their projects.



# BIR warned on church tax



## Joker says gov't drive could spark backlash

By T. Burgonio  
and G. C. Cabanag for PH

**ACQUINATATION** Sen. Joker Arroyo cautioned the government against imposing taxes on the members of religious groups, saying it risks facing a backlash if it failed to justify the plan.

He said the plan of the House of Representatives (HR) to tax the members of the Catholic Church, the Philippine Independent Church and various Christian churches, as well as the Muslim sects, had not been subject to more than 100 years.

"Suddenly, the whole thing would be a far-reaching and sweeping issue. It would be like to tax the members of the various churches, including the Islamic religious, the Commission on Government and the Republic of the Philippines have been imposed," Arroyo said in a statement.

HR Commissioner Guillermo Perante said Thursday that religious leaders and their organizations were generally exempt from paying taxes, but some of religious groups, such as the Catholic Church, had been subject to taxation and profits from other businesses were tax.

Under the government could justify the tax.

## Senate VAT bill to hurt profitable firms, says solon

By G. C. Cabanag for PH  
and T. Burgonio

**ALABANG**—Sen. Joker Arroyo said Thursday that the Senate's proposed VAT bill would hurt profitable firms, saying it would hurt the private sector and the economy.

Arroyo, who has President Manzano's support on economic matters, said the bill would hurt the private sector and the economy, saying it would hurt the private sector and the economy.

These are the problems facing power generation firms from paying on the VAT in connection, collecting credit input from corporations with heavy capital investments and raising the corporate tax from 32 percent to 35 percent.

"We can tell the power before it would be the golden egg," said Arroyo, who noted that the bill would hurt the private sector and the economy.

# World awaits smoke signal from Sistine Chapel

## List of possible candidates for next Pontiff

PHILADELPHIA are details of possible candidates to succeed the late Pope John Paul II (philippinepost.com)

• **Francis Arrese** (Singapore), born June 1, 1932.

If elected, the Vatican's 72-year-old pontiff may be re-elected with John Paul II as the first pope to have been elected in more than 1,000 years.

He is the fourth-ranking cardinal in the Vatican.

Arrese's main selling point would be his adherence to the late John Paul II's social and environmental concerns.

• **George Marik Benagorio** (Singapore), born June 27, 1936.

If elected, the 72-year-old Benagorio would be the first member of the indigenous Asian to become pope.

**MORAN CITY**—According to sources (Mindanapo Post), if the election results are not coming out of the Sistine Chapel in the world's largest church, the Sistine Chapel in the Vatican.

The commission to the election is the US presidency with the largest that represented the son of a Catholic in a recent time.

The election of 115 cardinals from 33 countries, which will elect the successor to the late John Paul II, will get underway at 1:00 GMT today (7:30 PM PH).

With prayers ending around the cardinal's election is underway about the night's deliberations on the list of candidates—there have added to the list about 100 names of clergy.

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## A Filipino perspective on John Paul's successor

By Jose F. Limon Jr.

(The author is chair of the Philippine Business Leaders Forum and an executive of the Philippine Oil Corporation (POC).)

**COMMENTARY**  
AFTER the two-day period of mourning, the College of Cardinals will elect the 26th successor to St. Peter after the death of Pope John Paul II (Good Shepherd). The new Pope will oversee the religious activities of 1.1 billion Catholics, or nearly a fifth of the world, with the help

of 4,700 bishops and 400,000 priests around the world.

The new pope, who will assume the title of Bishop of Rome and Pontifex Maximus (Supreme Pontiff), faces the challenge of carrying on the legacy of John Paul II, the first non-Italian Pope in 455 years since Sixtus V. The new pope will face a challenge for him, considering that the late Pope was a Polish priest, was only 58 years old when he was elected to the

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**BEAUTIES AND THE BLAST?**  
Are beauty firms becoming popular political fundraisers? The group of women in the photo are beauty firms that have become popular political fundraisers. The group of women in the photo are beauty firms that have become popular political fundraisers.









# Protestant, Catholic bishops divided on tax

By Christian V. Espinoza

A PROTESTANT bishop is opposed to imposing taxes on the revenues of religious organizations, but a Catholic bishop and a Muslim leader support it.

"It's against it," Bishop Edwin Limbaco, head of the Philippine Council of Evangelical Churches, told the Inquirer.

"There is no religious organization engaged in a revenue-raising activity, it should not be taxed as long as the money goes to the mission of the Church," he said.

He was reacting to the announcement of the Bureau of Internal Revenue that it was offering through the National Council of Churches and religious groups to find out if they had been paying taxes.

Limbaco said imposing taxes on churches would not contravene the principle of the separation of Church and State.

It is a different story if revenues were spent for personal use, he said.

Limbaco and the BIR campaign might have been triggered by suspicions that some religious organizations were evading fully taxes because they were tax-exempt.

## No problem

Angelo Inagoran, Archbishop of Cebu, said he had no problem with the government probing over church financial records.

"I have no quarrel with that," he said in an interview. "We're also bound by the law as taxation because we also benefit from government services. We also get service from the police and the fire department," he said.

Cris said Church policy, in fact, places its organizations under the civil law of the place where they operate.

But the government must know the difference between taxable and nontaxable income. He said he had no problem with the government imposing taxes on the Catholic Church and other religious organizations, he said.

"This is not hard to know. It is the law of the government where it does not collect our revenues from taxable income or wrongfully deduct taxes from exempt revenues," Cris said in an interview.

In San Francisco, Cris said the Church was paying regular income taxes on the revenues from properties of property owned in commercial establishments.

But he said the BIR might encounter a problem if it imposed taxation on non-profit business transactions such as the sale of services and other religious items, he said.

"Sometimes, what we really have goes straight to charity," he said. "If we suddenly impose taxes on them, it's not fair. It's the people benefiting from those charity works who will suffer."

## High time

Alma Reyes, president of the Philippine Islamic Council and the Center for Modern Islamism, said it was "high time" that the government imposed taxes on religious organizations.

"Why only now?" he asked. "Muslims had long been not exempt from paying taxes yet the government is thinking of collecting from other religious groups just now. It's really unfair."

While mosques are opened from taxes, he said they could hardly function because religious items, particularly copies of the Quran, released from abroad could not be shipped from the Bureau of Customs unless they were an addition over the non-exempting fees.

Reyes said some people were being misinterpreted as church groups to avoid themselves from the imposition.

"On one part, I can guarantee the government that we Muslims are above board," said Reyes, whose group includes some 10,000 member organizations nationwide.

"We will not release any claims involving our leaders. All Muslims and Islamic groups are to be religiously-minded," he said. With a report from Iskander Salas-Fuente, PDI

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# INFOTECH

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Editor Leo Magno

## Pagcor: We'll regulate, not engage in, cellular phone-based gambling

Erwin Linares  
S. Ochoa  
Gust Busto

IN THE HEAT of hearings on the merits and necessity of mobile phone gambling, the Philippine Amusement and Gaming Corp. (PAGCOR) denied that it will be operating a mobile gambling service via cellular phones.

While Pagcor has asked the National Telecommunications Commission (NTC) to grant them a specific code or special service number for a regulated non-broadcasting and gambling service, officials insisted that this

must mean only to allow the government-owned and controlled corporation to "regulate and control" nonbroadcast-based games of chance, deemed as gambling, in order to prevent minors from engaging in such activities. "We have no intention of promoting or introducing new slot games," Pagcor said in a statement during Wednesday's public hearing of the NTC.

"It is the intent of Pagcor that slot games are games of chance. It is its sole authority to regulate all games of chance in the country; these games therefore fall under Pagcor's jurisdiction," the agency added.

In an interview with Inquirer after the NTC public hearing, Isidoro Ring, managing head of Pagcor's PR and advertising department, tried to clarify the public misconception that Pagcor will offer open-to-the-public phone-based gambling services.

"There are so many non-broadcast games of chance right now, from one-lining slot gambling to three-line slot games, to name a few, that there has to be a system to determine whether a certain game of chance is gambling or not. Initially, all three [types of chance] have to comply with the Department of Trade and Industry if it is deemed a slot game, the NTC gives the seal of approval. From now, if it is deemed gambling, then Pagcor will regulate," Ring said.

Ring stressed that Pagcor is "here to regulate non-broadcast games that are and will be of strictly remote provision."

For a game of chance to be considered gambling, he said, three elements must be present: a fee to play the game, a way to win, a chance won, and a cash prize.

The Pagcor official stressed that the application for operation is considered part of an on-site agency agreement to regulate and monitor existing slot games offered by telecommunications companies and common providers.

During a two-hour presentation, however, Pagcor indicated that it was requesting the NTC, for the special services members with the objective of ensuring that "government retains the just and rightful share of the profit from slot games."

Pagcor also pointed out that it intends especially to protect the public, minors in particular, from numerous slot-based scams and fraudulent games of chance.

"It is our mandate to create and integrate the right authority to operate and control games of chance," while exploring new revenue opportunities, Pagcor added in its presentation.

The agency added that it already has set up an Internet and mobile communication platform through which mobile phone games will be monitored and regulated.

It also disclosed that it will require participants of mobile phone gambling services to register with the agency and provide personal information via text messaging. Upon registration, the agency will require such person to present at least three valid identifications to ascertain identity and emergency contact.

On top of that, Pagcor will offer pre-paid cards to facilitate its mobile or different pay-draw

function, starting from P200 up to P1,000.

"Such high value will discourage people with limited disposable income from gambling," emergency added.

The Pagcor system illustrated at the NTC hearing is purportedly meant to furnish registration as well as the flow of winners and monitored players from the mobile phone gambling service.

This system, Pagcor said, will eliminate scam and fraud because the prize is now money of a legitimate mobile phone-based gambling service.

Ultimately it is also requesting the NTC for a list of all the slots-added service providers in the country.

Colito wanted the president for the sports and regulatory affairs Isidoro Solano to join Pagcor's mission by asking the NTC for the special services members in the hearing.

"Pagcor is trying to see how slot games will be introduced. But in the end, they are they will look for ways to open more services? Are you going three today to monitor slot games to see how using it to introduce new services?" Solano wanted to know.

The Colito further argued that operators are in a better position than Pagcor to regulate non-broadcast games of chance.

"If you're not going to regulate slot-based gambling, slot, slot, slot, and we will take it down," he added. "There are no other agencies involved in gambling? We're not engaged in it. I will personally tell management to stop it if you find one," Solano said.

The Colito stressed around that Pagcor's objectives are ambiguous.

"If you're not going to engage in slot gambling, then why enter market? Others could assign a group to play for them if you are already going to monitor and regulate this activity from its beginning until the end," Solano said.

"Colito is demanding about Pagcor's mission. It's not policy but in engaging in gambling, allowing us to see if you can already go to mobile because if that's if you're going to have slot-based on-site service, you have to enter a commercial relationship or agreement with us. Gambling is not a public service," the Colito stressed pointed.

Solano said that Colito and other legal mobile phone operators have been through many congressional investigations after they are complained that they were operating an alleged game of chance, which should be regulated by the government-owned and controlled corporation.

The Wednesday's hearing was also attended by representatives from the Department of Trade and Industry, Commission on Higher Education, Department of Education, National Consumers Association Inc., Hufschmidt, and some other citizens and academic providers.

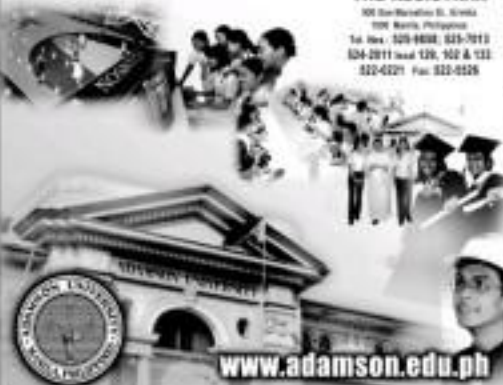
The NTC has asked all stakeholders in the issue to submit their position papers and presentations to be accepted within 10 days after this period, the agency will determine if it needs to hold another public hearing before it makes a decision on Pagcor's request for the special services members.

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## Clash mars opening ...

From page 40

their respective agencies.

The 44-member negotiating team, led by Indonesia with representatives from Brunei and Libya, is deployed in key cities of Mindanao to monitor the ceasefire agreement signed by the government and the MILF in July 2003.

MILF spokesperson Abd Kader said the ceasefire provisions give government soldiers the right to monitor the ceasefire agreement when they accompanied them in previous defense on the southern of Marikina Upper Marikina in Marikina, Maguindanao, on April 15.

Kader said a 15-member peacekeeping force, resulting in the death of five soldiers and the wounding of five others.

"One of our biggest concerns is the signing of the ceasefire agreement because they did not inform us prior to the signing of the agreement," Kader said. "We are not sure if the ceasefire agreement is really signed by the MILF and the government." Kader said the ceasefire agreement is not signed by the MILF and the government.

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"Originally, we wanted the table of this ceasefire—Bata, Davao and Marikina—but the MILF is not in the table," Kader said. "We are not sure if the ceasefire agreement is really signed by the MILF and the government."

### Measuring success

Both sides will include the conditions of ceasefire, disarmament, and the return of the MILF to the MILF. The MILF will include the conditions of ceasefire, disarmament, and the return of the MILF to the MILF.

"The negotiation of the peace talks is a long process," Kader said. "We are not sure if the ceasefire agreement is really signed by the MILF and the government."

He said the ceasefire agreement is not signed by the MILF and the government.

The process of peace talks and what is actually achieved, is in the hands of the MILF and the government," Kader said. "We are not sure if the ceasefire agreement is really signed by the MILF and the government."

"Many Christians are worried that the peace talks may result in a sell-out of their rights, privileges and opportunities as citizens of Mindanao. Conversely many Muslims are also worried about being left out, because the MILF negotiators are overwhelmingly represented by Maguindanao," he said.

### Security on both sides

"Because the MILF and the MILF have interests in peace and objectives to pursue, security is what is helping a comprehensive agreement and in making the second round," Kader said. "We are not sure if the ceasefire agreement is really signed by the MILF and the government."

"The MILF has long expressed its desire to have an independent ceasefire with the MILF, while the government is unwilling to be a signatory to this ceasefire."

"Although both sides are silent on what will be the outcome of this ceasefire, we hope that this ceasefire is truly signed," Kader said.

### US influence

"The acknowledgment of the importance of developing good relations with the United States is one of the country's top priorities in the development and stability of the country," Kader said. "We are not sure if the ceasefire agreement is really signed by the MILF and the government."

"If this is true and the United States will have the MILF as a partner in the development and stability of the country, then it is one of the responsibilities that may be laid on the MILF to ensure peace, stability and security in the country," Kader said. "We are not sure if the ceasefire agreement is really signed by the MILF and the government."

"The MILF is a partner in the development and stability of the country," Kader said. "We are not sure if the ceasefire agreement is really signed by the MILF and the government."

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# Fantasy-action flourishes enliven 'Darna' episode

AFTER a so-so start last week, GMA 7's "Darna" made a better impression on us when we viewed it last Monday. The reason was simple: the *fantasy* finally opted to focus on fantasy-action, rather than predictable melodrama.

## VIEWFINDER



Nestor U. Torre

In the episode we caught, the grown-up Narda/Darna character played by Angel Locsin made her appearance in a particularly strong way, contending with a number of colorful villains:

Alessandra da Rossi portrayed Valentina, a former childhood friend of

Narda's who has become a minion of the evil character played by Celia Rodriguez.

Eddie Garcia has become an "insect monster" who is surrounded by bees and other pesky flying creatures, and sends people to their death in a cloud of swarming, snarling insects.

In addition, there were any number of would-be kidnappers and other malefactors whose nasty schemes Darna had to foil.

To provide Narda/Darna a conflict of greater "philosophical" weight she was given a moment when she lost heart and no longer wanted to devote herself to helping others.

This was staged in a rather perfunctory manner, but we appreciated it nevertheless, because it gave the super-heroine a different level of involvement that went beyond the usual fisticuffs and flying scenes, and that variation was all to the good.

We liked the more action-oriented episode better than the first melodrama-loaded telecast we watched, and hope that the show will pursue this task in future episodes. It's less obvious and mushy, and makes better use of the television medium's visual strengths.

Of course, this will require the show's writers to think up increasingly more inventive action-scenes as well as more colorful villains and other characters. This is not as easy as it initially seems, so fresh batches of writers may periodically have to be infused into the series' production team, to keep the show's creative ante up.

## Feedback

FROM Nora Fabricante of Vancouver, Canada: "Your column on Nora Aunor was the best article I ever read na dapat malaman ng lahat. Maraming salamat, you've made Noranians happy by boosting our morale at this difficult time."

## Solo concert

RACHELLE Ann Go will mark her first anniversary in entertainment with a major solo concert at the Aliw Theater in April 29, with Ogie Alcasid, Mark Bautista, Christian Bautista and Jay-R as her special guests. After the show, she will fly to the States for another concert tour.

## Oscar winners on Star Movies

STAR Movies has acquired pay-TV rights to Oscar winner "Million dollar Baby." Other Oscar awardees to be telecast on the movie channel include "the Aviator," "Sideways"



ANGEL Locsin: Strong presence

and "Finding Neverland."

Awards won by "Million Dollar Baby" are for Best Picture, Best Director, Best Actress and Best Supporting Actor. "The Aviator" got trophies for Best Supporting Actress and Best Art Direction. "Sideways" was cited for Best Adopted Screenplay. And "Finding Neverland" clinched a statuette for Best Original Score.

## Movie on TV

VIEWING treats on HBO: April 24 at 6 a.m., "Mack the Knife." This movie adaptation of Bertolt Brecht's play, turned into a musical by Kurt Weill, is set in London during the time of Queen Victoria's coronation. London's underbelly is populated by beggars led by Mr. Peachum (Richard Norris), and criminals ruled by MacHeath (Raul Julia), also known as Mack the Knife. Mack lusts after Peachum's young daughter Polly, and this leads to "war" breaking out on the poverty-stricken streets of London.

11:10 a.m., "Charlotte Gray." Cate Blanchett plays the title character, a Scottish woman who goes to France during the war to look for the man she loves, who's been reported missing in action. She volunteers to work with French resistance forces, disguised as a woman from Paris. Later, however, she finds herself attracted to Julien (Billy Crudup), a communist working with the resistance. But, what about her missing lover?

## Stereophonics

BRITAIN'S best-selling band, Stereophonics, has released its new album, "Language, Sex, violence. Other," and it topped the UK charts on its first week of release. The album is also clicking in Europe, the US and Asia.

The first single from the album, "Dakota," has a happy-sad hook. "Doorman" is an energetic, sarcastic romp. And "Superman" is a classic modern rocker. Critics' take on the album as a whole: "All killers, no fillers!"

The album also introduces the band's newest member, drummer Javier Wyler, to music fans.























# A Filipino perspective on John Paul's successor

From the  
papacy on Dec. 25, 1978, replacing Pope John Paul I (Albino Luciani of Italy) who died less than a month after being elected. The task of the College of Cardinals is to elect a new pope in a conclave that will be held at the Apostolic Palace inside the Vatican.

the Chapel, in a vote presided by Pope Paul II in 1979, only cardinals below 80 years old will take part in the conclave, which is composed of 117 members out of the total 2,035 voting cardinals today. John Paul II personally designated about 70 percent of the living cardinals

during his almost 27 years as Pope.

It would require the votes of at least two-thirds of the voting cardinals for the new pope to be chosen. While the cardinals usually choose the next pope among those, including previous ones from electing an elected state (Roman Catholic), to use no more than two-thirds majority was after two weeks, the cardinals may agree to elect the next pope by simple majority or more than half the number of votes.

The conclave is held in great secrecy, already, the cardinals agreed that they will grant no more interviews with the media. The closest thing we have on the papal election process was reported in a novel, "The Doors of the Vatican," starting his

long Quinquagesimo years ago. I've noticed that the idea of having a pope from outside Europe, which had almost monopoly over the papacy since the time of St. Peter, who was from what is now Israel. The present College of Cardinals, however, remains under the dominion of Europeans, particularly Italians.

## Composition

Among the electing cardinals, 58 are from Europe, including 28 Italians, while 15 are from North America and the Pacific, 14 from Africa and Latin America, only 44, including 22 from Asia.

And the 22 voting cardinals of the three continents from the Philippines—Adolfo Luciani, 65,

Ricardo Jaraquemada and Jose Tomas Sanchez—only held in a conclave because of health or age, or both.

## Regional Europe

A number of nations have already dropped out as the possible successor to Pope John Paul II, including the German-born Joseph Ratzinger, the dean of the College of Cardinals who played a key role during the funeral rites seen by the rest of the world, thanks to CNN and BBC; and the Italian-Argentinian, the archbishop of Milan, Carlo Maria Martini, the archbishop of Florence, and Giovanni D'Ercole, a top Italian cardinal.

After 2,000 years, there is now a strong possibility that the College of Cardinals will finally look beyond the borders of Europe to find someone who can lead the church in the 21st century. John Paul II's period, however, the names mentioned are those of Jean-Claude Tardieu, archbishop of Montreal, Canada; Francis Arce, a Vatican official from Spain; Jose Okada, archbishop of Buenos Aires; Claudio Hummes, archbishop of Sao Paulo; and Jose Maria Bertrando, archbishop of Buenos Aires.

No American pope is not probable, not only because of many problems of the American church, including allegations of child abuse, but especially because such a pope may be seen as representing the "church of civilization" with the Middle East, due to the perceived interventionist and unilateralist foreign policy of US President George W. Bush, widely perceived as a devout Christian fundamentalist.

## Third World pope?

A Third World pope may be more effective in trying to reach out to the Catholics of China.

President Fr. Jaime was continuously elected from Rome during the papal funeral where about 70 presidents and prime ministers, and four kings and queens were among the most dignitaries who arrived, all of them through the Vatican's diplomatic relations with Taiwan.

However, prevailing opinion is that the next pope should be more engaged in the public, less brought about to global issues and should therefore come from outside Europe and the United States, countries perceived by the Third World not only as too powerful, economically and politically, but also not doing enough to narrow the gap between the "haves" of the North and the "have-nots" of the Southern Hemisphere.

The Philippines, therefore, would more easily elect a pope from the developing country in Latin America, the Caribbean, which shares the country's colorful past under centuries of Spanish rule, although lacking in the number of cardinals, the region has nearly 40 percent of the world's Catholic population.

In a place where cardinals are mostly conservative, Argentina seems to be one of the few moderate large Latin American countries, the archbishop of Buenos Aires, Jorge Mario Bergoglio, is known by his name, having been born in Buenos Aires, but Argentina, by contrast, where he was born in Buenos Aires on Dec. 17, 1933. It showed, he would be the first pope from a developing country outside Europe and the first Asian Vatican pope.

The Society of Jesus has a good following among the 70 Latin American Catholics in the Philippines.

The Argentine archbishop is known for his spiritual and charitable work. His preaching in the distant cities of Argentina has inspired many to seek hope in the Lord. He is always present for living with the people.

## 'Father Jorge'

Known simply as "Father Jorge" in his home, he still is possibly one of the city's industry and business, keeps a modest apartment, and maintains a low media profile, to keep focused on his pastoral ministry. As a young man religious leader has neglected his education in different parts of the world, he founded and speaks often to religious unity to others with his teaching and his influence. In Argentina, he is known as "Father Jorge," a name he has carried with him. He is known for spreading the Gospel, sharing the presence of God's love and compassion in Jesus Christ, and keeping his teaching simple.

In May 2002, while negotiating with the Argentine state to create a national crisis, there is no serious concern within the Philippines over the election of a pope from outside Europe. He is known for spreading the Gospel, sharing the presence of God's love and compassion in Jesus Christ, and keeping his teaching simple.

An Argentine who grew up in Argentina, a melting pot of different cultures in South America, he understands the conflict of world events in the modern age and continues his diverse against the adverse impact of fundamentalism. He has also questioned the Argentine government's one-sided policy of dragging millions of its citizens into poverty.

As time when the situation in the Middle East and North Africa is still a source of concern, he believes that the cardinals would find evidence in the fact that it is now time for the Catholic Church to pick a pope who is really understanding the conditions of the developing world, where most people of the poor and disadvantaged live and die.

The next pope needs to continue to speak about and address the problems of poverty, racism and oppression to reach out to people who feel marginalized and alienated in the same time, the pope's role would be to bring the teachings of the Church in harmony with the teachings of the modern society and economy now run by many of the young generation of the Catholic Church.

At a point, Bergoglio seems to be the best person to carry the Gospel message to the people of the developing countries where billions of people are poor, sick, grieving and mourning to have a message of hope. I pray that the conclave will elect a pope who is not only a man of faith but also a man of action who will continue the work of our beloved John Paul II.

## "Alamin Ang Diabetes"

Using educational TV program targeted to diabetics.

Ateneo de Manila University, Manila, Philippines

April 17, 2005, 11 PM

April 18, 2005, 8:30 AM

April 24, 2005, 11 PM

April 26, 2005, 8:30 AM

May 1, 2005, 11 PM

May 3, 2005, 8:30 AM

May 8, 2005, 11 PM

May 10, 2005, 8:30 AM

Ateneo de Manila University, Manila, Philippines

Operation Diabetes

Operation Diabetes is a series of educational TV programs targeted to diabetics.

The program is produced by Ateneo de Manila University, Manila, Philippines.

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The all new **Spokeman** Personal Voice Amplifier

The Ultimate Voice Care Product

Now you don't have to shout to be heard.

- Amplifies your voice up to 100 feet
- 20 watt power output
- Automatic shut-off when not in use
- Rechargeable battery pack included
- Comes with belt clip and strap
- Includes battery and charger

Spokeman, the ultimate voice care product, is the only personal voice amplifier that is designed to be used in the home, office, and outdoors. It is the only personal voice amplifier that is designed to be used in the home, office, and outdoors. It is the only personal voice amplifier that is designed to be used in the home, office, and outdoors.

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## Brothel closes down out of respect for Pope

MANILA—The owner of a brothel in a small town in southern Mindanao is closing down his business out of respect for the late Pope John Paul II, the Manila Philippine newspaper reported yesterday. "We closing down my business with the girls, I'm doing it for the one at the top, for the Pope," the paper quoted him saying. "Many in our community

Something reached inside me. That any way to life," he said.

Calder said he would like to see the Pope's body and continue to be a person of faith. He said he would like to see the Pope's body and continue to be a person of faith. He said he would like to see the Pope's body and continue to be a person of faith.

John Paul II was born in Wroclaw, which is located 20 miles from Poznan.























# Gov't prepares for 2nd international bond float

By Michelle K. Barua

THE GOVERNMENT is laying the groundwork for its second international bond float this year in anticipation of the passage of the much-awaited bill to restructure the national debt system.

"Obviously right now, the focus is getting the bill passed so we can fill the void that is hanging over Philippine bond investors," said Finance Secretary Cesar Purisima in an interview with *BusinessWorld*.

The GDF said investors have been

heavily monitoring the progress of the bill since last year, and that it is expected to be passed by the Senate this year.

The GDF made its first bond float this year in January, when it raised \$1.5 billion from the issuance of 35-year debt papers.

The government has programmed to borrow \$4 billion from foreign sources this year.

At the moment, \$3 billion will be set aside for the national government's own financing requirements, while the re-

maining \$1 billion is intended to fund a guarantee of state-owned National Power Corp. (NPC) bonds.

After months of delay, the Senate is only poised to vote on the bill for the first time last year, pending the bill for delinquency by the national government to Congress.

However, the delay means that the bill is not yet in effect, and the government is still in a bind to complete the bill for the delinquency.

While the delinquency bill is pending, the government is still in a bind to complete the bill for the delinquency.

implication of the bill is currently expected to be \$1.5 billion.

The government is also in a bind to complete the bill for the delinquency.

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credit market is currently the state of the financial markets of the GDF. Purisima said that the bill is currently expected to be \$1.5 billion.

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The government is also in a bind to complete the bill for the delinquency.

## KOREA TRADE CENTER MANILA INVITES

BUYERS, IMPORTERS, AGENT, DISTRIBUTORS TO MEET VISITING COMPANIES OF TWO KOREAN TRADE MISSIONS:

1. KOREAN WORLD CLASS PRODUCTS TM
2. KOREAN TRADE MISSION FROM PUSAN

### KOREAN WORLD CLASS PRODUCTS

VENUE : DUSIT HOTEL, MAKATI  
DATE : THURSDAY - 23 APRIL 2005

#### 1. DREAMHERK CO. LTD.

Access Control: Face and Fingerprint Recognition, Hand Auto Door lock

#### 2. LG CHEM LTD.

Bridge/Construction/Ad Sign Material Transparent ABS, PVC Coated, Acrylic Artificial Marble, Fabric Materials

#### 3. SAHAN

Reverse Osmosis Membranes (RO/PI) Filters for Water Treatment

#### 4. YOUNG WOO CMT INC.

Textile Card Design for the Garments Fashion, Carpet and other Industries

### KOREAN TRADE MISSION FROM PUSAN

VENUE : INTERCON HOTEL, MAKATI  
DATE : TUESDAY - 03 MAY 2005

#### 1. CHEEWOOD ENGINEERING

Cad/Cat: Edits, Import/Export, print & view CAD file formats at high speed

#### 2. DAESUNG E.N.G.

Digital Temperature Controllers and Indicator, Power Meters and Timers

#### 3. JOONGANG COUPLINGS

Couplings: Gear, Disk, Micro, Rubber, Jaw, Tire, Grid for Various Industries

#### 4. MARINESOFT

Edut/Training Software: Marine Ship Inspection Report, Management System

#### 5. MABSOFT INC.

Online Copyright Management: Solution Software Protection of Data & CD Title

#### 6. SHENWON INFO TECHNOLOGY

Core (Online) Banking Systems, Relay Systems (Internet), E-Banking

#### 7. TAE KWANG ELECTRONICS

Digital/Analog Multimeters: Testers, Clamp Meters; Insulation, Earth Testers etc.

#### 8. WORLD 2000 TRADING

Insulation Displacement Connection (IDC) Terminal for Outdoor Telecomm

For confirmation of individual appointments, please contact Korea Trade Center (Kotra) Attn:Charlie Alvares, Jo Roberto, Rosanne Tan Tel: 893-1183 / 893-3244 & 750-1788/750-1180 Fax: 893-3369 / 751-4358 Cel: 0918-9247172 or contact via E-Mail:charlie@kotra.com.ph.

## Mindanao farmers find ways to healthy living

(One of the parts)

APPROXIMATELY 100,000 farmers in the province of Mindanao are now growing vegetables in their backyards.

The vegetables that are grown in the backyards are mostly tomatoes, eggplants, and okra.

The farmers are growing these vegetables in their backyards because they are easy to grow and they can be sold in the market.

### MESSAGE WORLD

Agri-Exposure

Agri-Exposure is a new growing arrangement with individual farmers in production.

Small businesses are being started in the province of Mindanao. These businesses are mostly in the vegetable business.

The farmers are growing these vegetables in their backyards because they are easy to grow and they can be sold in the market.

Under this arrangement, it is expected that the farmers will be able to grow more vegetables in their backyards.

Private sector initiatives

Independent farmers and farm groups are becoming active in the vegetable business. They are growing vegetables in their backyards and selling them in the market.

The farmers are growing these vegetables in their backyards because they are easy to grow and they can be sold in the market.

Together with the Department of Agriculture

by Council of Southern Mindanao, the farmers are growing vegetables in their backyards.

The farmers are growing these vegetables in their backyards because they are easy to grow and they can be sold in the market.

New export markets

In Central Mindanao, farmers are looking for new export markets for their vegetables. They are growing vegetables in their backyards and selling them in the market.

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Together with the Department of Agriculture

## CAP gets nod to seal deal with Europe

By Elizabeth L. Sanchez

THE SECRETARIAT OF Foreign Affairs (SFA) has approved a proposed export deal between the Philippines and the European Union (EU).

The deal is expected to be signed by the end of the year.

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## Manila, Tokyo inch closer to economic agreement

By David W. D'Amico

AN ECONOMIC partnership agreement between Japan and the Philippines is expected to be finalized by the end of the year.

The deal is expected to be signed by the end of the year.

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# LIFESTYLE

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MONDAY ARTS & BOOKS • TUESDAY FITNESS • WEDNESDAY IBU • THURSDAY FOOD • FRIDAY FASHION & BEAUTY

**TIMEX**

The entire Philippines should be declared a billboard-free zone, and many readers seem to agree

## Citizens speak up on billboard mess

**R**EADERS seem to be much more responsive to last week's column on the current Philippine billboard mess. I'm sharing their sentiments with readers.

Randy Dorado's "Billboard Nausea" is an interesting description of the pro-

**PRIDE OF PLACE**

Angela E. Valencia

blem with our environment.

Citizens are being overwhelmed with billboards. Now that they have covered practically every site in the country, the Filipino has turned a blind eye, preferring not to notice that billboards offend, block views, and detract nature and the environment.

An e-mail from New Jersey (J204) (2/23/06) CI.









"HOGON Girl" 1, by Silke Cornelia Perowski



"HOGON Girl" 1, 2, by Silke



"MAMBA Ha and Nga Kabin" by Rosemarie

# Potent images from women artists

By page 10

## Distance and drama

While others in today's art scene set just as readily, the more remarkable, though, are the artists "Moggon," give something of a sense of distance and drama to their work. These artists are not just painting, they are creating a world.

Like herself has done of her signature can be seen in the show. The artists have been, placed in a position that is not just a painting, but a statement. The artists are not just painting, they are creating a world.

Two like, self-portraits, "Hogon" (1) and "Hogon" (2) by Silke Cornelia Perowski, are placed in a position that is not just a painting, but a statement. The artists are not just painting, they are creating a world.

After very subtle line, the artists are not just painting, they are creating a world. The artists are not just painting, they are creating a world.

Some with wings, spread on the floor, while some with wings, spread on the floor, while some with wings, spread on the floor.



"HOGON Girl" 1, 2, by Silke

Images suspended in time, as if they were in a dream, as if they were in a dream, as if they were in a dream.

These are the artists' images, as if they were in a dream, as if they were in a dream, as if they were in a dream.

## Sexuality and grace

Among the most powerful images in the show, as if they were in a dream, as if they were in a dream, as if they were in a dream.



"HOGON Girl" 1, 2, by Silke



"HOGON Girl" 1, 2, by Silke

# The sight of music

By page 10

CHIEF, most group shows that look like a group for a well-known group, "La Musica" is a group of artists, as if they were in a dream, as if they were in a dream, as if they were in a dream.

And not only have the participating artists, as if they were in a dream, as if they were in a dream, as if they were in a dream.

Now on the second year, "La Musica" is a group of artists, as if they were in a dream, as if they were in a dream, as if they were in a dream.

And though the image is dominated by the artists' images, as if they were in a dream, as if they were in a dream, as if they were in a dream.

Visual striking

Most striking among these artists, as if they were in a dream, as if they were in a dream, as if they were in a dream.

Another artist with a highly distinctive expression, as if they were in a dream, as if they were in a dream, as if they were in a dream.

Arriving at the end of the show, as if they were in a dream, as if they were in a dream, as if they were in a dream.



"HOGON Girl" 1, 2, by Silke

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Visual striking

Most striking among these artists, as if they were in a dream, as if they were in a dream, as if they were in a dream.

Another artist with a highly distinctive expression, as if they were in a dream, as if they were in a dream, as if they were in a dream.

Arriving at the end of the show, as if they were in a dream, as if they were in a dream, as if they were in a dream.

## domestic violence

In "Hogon" (1) and "Hogon" (2) by Silke Cornelia Perowski, as if they were in a dream, as if they were in a dream, as if they were in a dream.

These paintings are not just paintings, they are statements, as if they were in a dream, as if they were in a dream, as if they were in a dream.

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"HOGON Girl" 1, 2, by Silke



"HOGON Girl" 1, 2, by Silke